

Committee Notes – Joint Meeting

Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID

August 8, 2013

Los Angeles Film School (6363 Sunset Blvd.)

Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: Charlie Colletta Not Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Carol Massie, Derrick Malec and Chad Lewis. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Fabio Conti, Elizabeth McDonald and Katie Seymour. Not Present: Anthony Bell. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Deputy Del Moore, LASD; Andre Quintero, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office; Steve Whiddon, Council District 13. Not Present: LAPD. Staff: Kerry Morrison, and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Philip Ferentinos, Vahid Sapir, Starline Tours; Kambiz Batmanghelich, Property Owner.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Sunset and Vine Committee Chair Fred Rosenthal at 10:02 a.m.

II. Public Comment: Philip Ferentinos from Starline Tours expressed his frustration to the group regarding the inordinate amount of sidewalk closures occurring on the Boulevard, and the mass of illegal kiosks and vendor tables that are set up without any City approval or enforcement. Mariani informed Mr. Ferentinos that the City is still working on an ordinance and that the BID would see if the Council office could ask the Bureau of Street Services to cite individuals who have illegal furniture on the Boulevard.

Kambiz Batmanghelich informed the committee that the corner of Hollywood and Cahuenga seems to be growing increasingly unsafe. He asked that BID Security patrol more around his property. Mariani informed Mr. Batmanghelich that the BID does indeed patrol around his property and that he could send him a map following the meeting which would show where private person's arrests have occurred in the area. Fred Rosenthal also suggested that he call LAPD and BID security when incidents occur and install a closed circuit TV system in his stores to prevent shoplifting. Mr. Batmanghelich was appreciative for the suggestions.

III. Meeting Notes: The committee approved the meeting notes from their July 11, 2013 meeting.

IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: This month's report covered activity through week 31 in the BIDs. Seyler informed the committee that the trend of fewer arrests and more calls for service is still holding. The office thus far has made 166 fewer arrests compared to this time last year, but has received more than 600 calls compared to last year's record breaking number. Seyler informed the committee that the PSO's are continuing to do a great job, and business checks are up by approximately 4,000. Additionally, officers this year have logged over 1,100 hours of foot patrol, to help increase visibility in the area. Recently Seyler met with the BID staff, LAPD, DMH, Santa Monica PD, and PATH to create a plan to help get long time homeless resident of Hollywood, "Serge" into supportive services. Seyler said the effort is underway and has been successful thus far, thanks to the great people involved in the effort including Kerry Morrison. Seyler is working with these agencies as they try to put together additional plans to help some of Hollywood's most chronically homeless individuals. Lastly, Seyler said he was very appreciative to see the extra LAPD foot patrols on the Boulevard.

B. Report from LAPD: Mariani said that the LAPD was unable to attend today's meeting due to prior commitments. However, while the Captain was at the BIDs' All Property Owners Meeting on Tuesday, she did report that crime in Hollywood has continued its downward trend. Mariani said that the Captain has also

reached out to the BID about re-exploring a potential nighttime deployment effort. Mariani directed the committee's attention to a price sheet which laid out what the costs would be for a 14 week experiment of 6-8 officers. Mariani also reviewed the potential cost of a "Koban" which was an idea the Captain had brought up at the Hollywood Board's July meeting. Mariani said the ideas will be further reviewed at the HPOA's next board meeting. Charlie Colletta suggested first having a meeting with Captain Girmala, prior to the September board meeting to discuss what exactly the duties would be for the BID's potential nighttime officers. Colletta also asked if he and some of the HPOA's board members could attend along with Andrews International. Mariani said he would try and set up a meeting.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: Deputy Del Moore reported that the LASD is looking into getting Kiosks, similar to the Captain's Koban idea, for some of their Red Line stations. These kiosks would be set up on the mezzanine level (below ground) next to the ticket booths to ensure patrons are purchasing their fare and properly utilizing the locking turnstiles. He said if the BID was interested he could let the staff know which vendor they are going with for the kiosks so the BID could obtain a more credible quote on the Koban. Mariani thanked the Deputy and asked that he please forward the info to him when he could.

D. Report from Neighborhood Prosecutor: Andre Quintero said he is continuing follow up on those suspects in Hollywood who are repeat offenders. Recently an arrest was made of a suspect whom Mr. Quintero had been building a case against, however this individual was released by the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Quintero said that the quick release of offenders is one of the challenges he has been facing.

Quintero also reported that the LAPD's fixed post officers are enforcing "everything" and he is happy to see them out on the Boulevard. Quintero said that a memo was recently released by the LAPD which asked that misdemeanor violations be treated as infractions. Quintero said that the memo should not affect Andrews' operations and that the BID should continue their normal citizen's arrest process. Lastly, Quintero suggested that he and Steve Seyler set up trespass training for the Andrews officers. Seyler said he would speak with Quintero after to set up a date and time.

E. Councilmember O'Farrell's Office: Steve Whiddon, CD-13 Field Deputy, introduced himself to the committee. While the Councilmember has only been in office for two months, Mr. Whiddon said that both the Councilmember and his staff have been very busy. CD-13 staff has been meeting with the City Attorney's office to try and create an ordinance that would encompass all sidewalk issues that have been occurring in the community for some time, while still ensuring first amendment rights. Mr. Whiddon asked that the community and the BID continue to inform their office as to what is occurring in the area. The council office is also researching what creative things other communities have done to help alleviate similar issues in their areas. Sarah Besley asked if Mr. Whiddon could please contact the Bureau of Street Services to do a review of the Boulevard and the illegal furniture that Mr. Ferentinos had mentioned at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Whiddon said he would look into who the office could contact.

V. New Business

A. Hollywood Residential Property Manager Ad-Hoc Committee: Mariani informed the committee that both Kerry Morrison and Sarah Besley have been meeting with various property managers in the two BID areas to hear their concerns with issues related to nighttime problems. Morrison is trying to put a group of managers together to try and discuss the issues with the help of the City and nighttime businesses in the area.

VI. Old Business

A. LAPD Camera System Report: Mariani said there was nothing new to report on the topic and that the HPOA board will need to consider if they want to suspend the maintenance contract for 2014 or possibly have the committee look into upgrading the current system.

B. Hollywood and Cahuenga Intersection Update: Mariani reported that there has still yet to be any progress on the owners of the alley reaching an agreement to secure the alley. The HPOA hopes that some sort of agreement will be reached soon, so the alley maintenance services can resume again.

C. Homeless Outreach Update: Mariani shared with the Committee that Steve Seyler, Kerry Morrison, and the LAPD have been collaborating with other county agencies such as the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and outreach providers such as PATH, to reach out to some of Hollywood's most chronically homeless neighbors. The group is handling each individual on a case by case basis, and recently has had some success with a gentleman who has been homeless in the area for about 10 years. The group hopes that they will be able to work with the County to ensure that the gentleman obtains long time care and services which are desperately needed.

D. Community Impact Team: Mariani reported that Council Member O'Farrell does intend to reconvene the Community Impact Team, so the community can begin to look at many of the sidewalk issues occurring on the Boulevard. Mariani said he would see if he could find the contact list of the original group so Mr. Whiddon could reach out to the group and try and reconvene the meetings.

E. 24 Hour Security Database: Mariani distributed to the board a list of security companies in both BIDs that provide late night security to office/residential buildings in the district. The idea to compose such a list was originally thought of by Sunset and Vine BID board member Arthur Stroyman so that companies in the area had a resource that would allow them and the LAPD to contact each other should issues arise at night. Mariani thanked the BID officers for compiling the list and said that the officers will be distributing the list to each company in the coming weeks.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the Los Angeles Film School (6363 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Sunset and Vine Committee Chair Fred Rosenthal at 11:15 a.m.